

Education and
Public Outreach

Swift



SWIFT AND THE GLOBAL TELESCOPE NETWORK



LYNN COMINSKY
SONOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY

THE GLOBAL (NEE GLAST) TELESCOPE NETWORK



- Network of ground-based telescopes
- Purpose: to support GLAST, Swift and XMM-Newton science, and educate students about astronomy by partnering with NASA scientists
- Partners:
 - Sonoma State University E/PO Group
 - AAVSO
 - Hands On Universe Project (Yerkes)
 - Elk Creek Observatory (Kansas)
 - California Academy of Sciences
 - WIRO (Wyoming + 2 other possible locations)
- Actively recruiting other partners (VERITAS?)

GORT (GLAST OPTICAL ROBOTIC TELESCOPE)

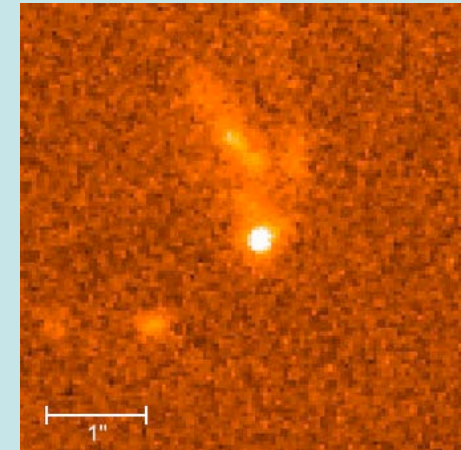


**The original
GORT**

- Celestron 14" Paramount/AP47P
- CCD and filter wheel
- Pepperwood Preserve, Hume Observatory
(California Academy of Sciences)
- About 30 minutes north of SSU

GTN SCIENCE PROJECTS

- Active galaxy, polar surveillance
 - V and I observations of 2 targets / month
 - S/N >100, photometry ~1%
- High time-resolution datasets
 - Microvariability
 - Observe one target for many hours
 - At least once/year
- Gamma-ray bursts
 - Rapid response (GCN notification)
 - High S/N, but fast, multiple images more critical



GTN EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

- Simple image reduction and analysis
- Hands-On Universe
- AAVSO cooperation
- Educational unit (under development)



Goals:

- Combine gamma-ray and visible light data
- Partner with scientists to publish data in scientific journals

JOIN THE GTN

What/Who are we looking for?

- Observers with access to telescopes w/CCD
- Willing to observe a minimum amount (depends on project)
- Willing to have data archived and used by others
- Not up for a long-term commitment?
Go through the AAVSO!
- Swift scientists to partner with our ground-based partners

GTN PARTNER BENEFITS:

Real science with real scientist partners!

- Submit proposals to acquire data if you do not have your own visible-light telescope
- GRB Astrometry analysis
- GRB Photometry analysis
- Data archiving at SSU
- Light curves reported through AAVSO

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://gtn.sonoma.edu>

Pepperwood
dome

